

Message Text

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16

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01 EB-11 AID-20 RSR-01 /168 W

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R 270500Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2913

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KAMPALA 2408

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UG IS

SUBJ: AMIN ELABORATES ON TELEGRAM TO DAYAN

REFS: A) KAMPALA 2392, B) KAMPALA 2393

1. FOLLOWING UP ON HIS TELEGRAM TO GENERAL DAYAN, PRES. AMIN CALLED IN ITALIAN AMBASSADOR JULY 25 TO FURTHER EXPLAIN HIS POSITION. (ITALY REPRESENTS ISRAELI INTERESTS HERE.) SAID HE SUMMONED AMB. AFTER LEARNING THAT ISRAELI FIRMS WERE PROCEEDING AGAINST GOU AND ITS NATIONAL HOUSING CORP. (NHC) IN INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ARBITRATION COURT BEFORE A SWEDISH ARBITRATOR, MR. LUBECK. AMIN DECLARED SUITS AGAINST GOU AND NHC WERE UNNECESSARY AND REITERATED THAT HE WOULD PAY COMPENSATION FOR ALL ISRAELI INTERESTS TAKEN OVER WHEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE BROKEN LAST YEAR. STATED FURTHER THAT GOU HAS ALREADY APPOINTED A TEAM OF RUSSIANS TO MAKE VALUATION AND DETERMINE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION. UPON COMPLETION OF REPORT, ITALIAN GOVT WILL BE ASKED TO ARRANGE TIMING OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN ISRAEL AND UGANDA. ALSO REPEATED THAT HE WILL COMPENSATE BRITISH COMPANIES AND NON-CITIZEN ASIANS

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FOR THEIR PROPERTY TAKEN OVER BY GOU.

2. PRESIDENT THEN DETAILED UGANDA'S SIDE OF COIN. DECLARED THAT WHEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE BROKEN (HE DID NOT MENTION THAT ISRAELIS WERE ABRUPTLY EXPELLED AS WELL), ISRAELIS WHO WERE BUILDING NEW ARUA AIRPORT TOOK WITH THEM TRACTORS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT WHICH BELONGED TO UGANDA. THIS EQUIPMENT, PRESIDENT ASSERTED, WAS WORTH \$28 MILLION. COMMENT: THIS IS AT LEAST \$20 MILLION ABOVE ACTUAL VALUE, ACCORDING TO ANOTHER FIRM HERE INVOLVED IN ARUA PROJECT. IT IS QUITE TRUE THAT ISRAELIS LINED UP SOME 50 PIECES OF MOVEABLE EQUIPMENT AND BOLDLY DROVE THEM IN A CONVEY CLEAR ACROSS COUNTRY INTO KENYA, WITH A UGANDAN POLICE ESCORT LEADING THE WAY TO BOOT. HOWEVER, THAT EQUIPMENT MAY HAVE RIGHTFULLY BELONGED TO ISRAELI CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES.

3. AMIN ALSO NOTED THAT GOU PURCHASED WITH CASH A "GOOD NUMBER" OF CARS, JEEPS, AND LORRIES FOR MILITARY USE, ALONG WITH SPARE PARTS, BUT SPARES WERE NEVER DELIVERED. SAID THAT ISRAEL ALSO SOLD 12 PURPORTEDLY NEW FOUGA JETS WHICH IN REALITY WERE SECOND-HAND AND NOW ONLY TWO ARE IN WORKING ORDER DUE TO LACK OF SPARES WHICH WERE NEVER DELIVERED. (THE FOUGAS WERE SOLD TO THE OBOTE GOVT SOME 6-7 YEARS AGO. SPARES REPORTEDLY ARE NOW BEING SUPPLIED BY FRANCE.) PRES. STATED FURTHER THAT ISRAELIS DID NOT DELIVER ALL MATERIALS FOR UGANDA'S SCHOOL FOR PARATROOPERS WHICH HAD BEEN PAID FOR. SAID ISRAELIS ALSO HAVE DEBTS TO MINISTRY OF DEFENSE BUT DID NOT ELABORATE.

4. PRESIDENT REITERATED THAT HE WAS MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO SERVICE ISRAELI JET COMMANDER AND WOULD EXCHANGE IT FOR UGANDA'S DC-3 DAKOTA.

5. IN HIS ONLY BRIEF COMMENT TO ITALIAN AMB PERTAINING TO ME SITUATION, AS REPORTED BY GOU-OWNED VOICE OF UGANDA, AMIN SAID ISRAELIS SHOULD MOVE OUT OF SINAI AND OTHER ARAB LANDS SHE IS OCCUPYING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH 1967 UN RESOLUTION. IN SEPARATE ARTICLE IN VOICE, NEW IRAQI AMB IN PRESENTING HIS CREDENTIALS CALLED FOR CONTINUED STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND ZIONISM, BUT IN REPLY AMIN MERELY STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT AND UNITY IN AFRICA AND ARAB WORLD.

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6. COMMENT: IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT A PRIME MOTIVATION BEHIND AMIN'S RELATIVELY TEMPERATE REMARKS AND ATTITUDE TOWARD ISRAEL IN LAST SEVERAL DAYS IS HIS APPREHENSION OF ISRAELI LEGAL INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL FRONTS. THIS IS FIRST WE HAVE HEARD OF POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT BY ICC ARBITRATION COURT. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO EMBASSIES PARIS OR TEL AVIV MAY OBTAIN ON THIS.
BURROWS

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